

*STAFFORD COUNTY
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY - MAY 5, 2011*

The Stafford County Historical Commission held its regular monthly meeting Thursday, May 5, 2011, in Conference Room ABC, Government Center; 1300 Courthouse Road. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM by Anita Dodd.

ROLL CALL

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
Anita Dodd - Chair	P		Kathy Baker - Assistant Director - Planning & Zoning
Ann Best-Rolls - Vice Chair	P		Terry Baxley Morton - Commission Clerk
Barbara Kirby - Secretary		A	Amber Forestier - Environmental Planner - Planning
Cessie Howell	P		MC Moncure - Tourism Manager - Economic Dev.
Jane Conner	P		
David Rodriguez MD	P		
Frank White		A	

PRESENTATIONS BY PUBLIC - None.

NEW BUSINESS

- Stafford Civil War Trails Project by MC Moncure, Tourism Manager, Economic Development.

- The County wants to commemorate its Sesquicentennial. The Board approved two signs placed at the Courthouse depicting the Civil War nature of the Courthouse area. A picture of Robert Gould Shaw honoring "Glory" Begins for the 54th US Massachusetts when Shaw received his Commissioning at the Courthouse from his father. The County may have a sign at Grafton Elementary School about Abraham Lincoln with the 11th Corp.
- Jane Conner reviewed much of her research and shared her opinions with MC Moncure and the Commission.
- MC Moncure offered the Historical Commission the opportunity to edit and offer advice on the proposed signs, as there were suggestions brought up. She said she was attending the Architectural Review Board (ARB) meeting on the following Monday. She said to get ARB approval they would have to submit the definitive content and the proposed locations.
- MC Moncure was present to give the Commission a precursor.
- There were three committees formed to fall under the Sesquicentennial umbrella. The County will make application to the Civil War Trails.
- MC Moncure reminded the Commission of various additional Civil War trail signs throughout the County, the Beanpoles and Cornstalks Bridge over Potomac Creek, Aquia Landing and the Native American Medicine Wheel at Aquia Landing Road signs.
- MC Moncure said Stafford Tourism tries to provide at least four new signs a year.
- Kathy Baker suggested the Commission form a subcommittee for signage.
- The sub-committee was unanimously approved consisting of Jane Conner and David Rodriguez.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- The February 3, 2011, March 3, 2011 and April 7, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Stafford County Annual Historic Preservation Awards Reception & Presentations - Final Preparations - Awards Presented May 17, 2011.

- The awards will be small clocks, silver in color with a small plaque.
- Due to funding and the quantity of Boys and Girl Scouts the Scouts will each receive a plaque.
- Refreshments, name tags, certificates, presentations, the introduction and verbiage for presentations were discussed.

- Falmouth Intersection - Update & Discussion.

- A correspondence was sent from the Commission to VDOT regarding a first draft Programmatic Agreement and a Phase II Evaluation on April 27th.

- Proposed Ordinance 006-47 dated July 18, 2006 - Regarding Archaeological Surveys & Investigations - Discussion.

- Previously the Commission discussed inviting members of the Board of Supervisors individually to discuss the proposed ordinance.
- The Commission feels part of its job is to protect cultural resources in the County so it should be supportive of the ordinance and push for it on a regular basis.
- The Commission said it needs to have a protection mechanism. A preservation planner is important but apparently the County budget cannot accommodate one. It was iterated that even with a preservation planner without the ordinance the County would have no say.
- The Commission requested the Clerk to review prior minutes to review the questions that Supervisor Crisp agreed to address.
- Phases I, II and III are set forward by the State of Virginia. The studies are a progression of how to evaluate the land. Phase I is meant to identify site on the property, the report would suggest if the subject has eligibility to be on the National Register. If it is eligible for the National Register a Phase II is performed on the sites that were identified. Those particular sites are assessed for eligibility. If the site is to be demolished a Phase III can be performed or mitigation can be conducted on the site.
- The Clerk will send all prior revisions from the Commission to update the members on its progress.
- The Commission unanimously approved having discussion about the potential ordinance and presenting the ordinance to the Board of Supervisors in the future.

- Cessie Howell resigned from the Commission. The Commission bid Cessie Howell farewell and thanked her for her dedicated service to the Historical Commission.

REPORTS BY THE CHAIR

- UDA (Urban Development Area). The County hired Rhodeside & Harwell, a consulting firm, to develop a plan for a UDA for the County. The consultants have had several meetings with different aspects of the County such as environmental, cultural, traffic and various inputs.

- The Historical Commission was asked for its input.
- The UDAs are basically the I-95 and US-1 corridors.
- A map was viewed illustrating the County's potential UDAs and USAs (Urban Service Areas).
- Cultural resources need to be considered especially around the Courthouse.
- Various people were on the panel to meet with the consultants.

- The consultants asked the panel to suggest an area of the County they could use as its model. The panel chose the Courthouse area.
- Rhodeside & Harwell have been working with Spotsylvania County as well.

- Quantico Corporate Center. The Commission sent a letter in regard to a Historic Structures report. The buildings in question were not savable.

- The Commission agreed to ask the developer for ammo boxes and any artifacts that could be given to the Historical Society for a possible museum in the future.
- The Commission agreed to have Anita Dodd submit a letter to the developer on its behalf in regard to the Phase I report previously submitted.

- The Bells Hill Road Property Phase I Report. There is a possibility of a cemetery on the property. There is periwinkle growing in the vicinity which is a sign of a potential cemetery. The firm conducting the report most likely did not know of the possibility of a cemetery. Older surveys exist that allude to a cemetery in the vicinity.

- The Commission decided to request a site visit for the potential cemetery.
- The Commission agreed to have Anita Dodd submit a letter to the developer on its behalf in regard to the Phase I report previously submitted.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Anita Dodd - Commission Chair

Barbara Kirby - Commission Secretary